



VOL. XXIV.

AUGUSTA, MAINE, THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 14, 1856.

NO. 34.



"Our Home, our Country, and our Brother Man."

#### KILLING ALDERS.

We do not know of any one species of bush that is so extensively spread over the country as the common black alder. It grows at the north and south. It grows in the water, and on the dry land. It grows in the valley, and on the hill—in the wood and in the field. Why it should be so abundantly scattered over this part of the earth, we could never ascertain—probably for some useful purpose.

It is a question among farmers—what is the best mode of exterminating them effectually. The best mode that we ever tried, is to have a large stout iron hook made, attach a stout chain and yoke of oxen to it, and tear them out by the roots. If you cannot obtain a hook easily, you can do it pretty well by putting a chain around clumps of them, slip-nose fashion, and then bend the tops over against it in an opposite direction from the oxen and haul them up so.

Many contend that there is a certain time in this month (August) in which if they be cut they will never start again.

There probably is some period during their annual growth, when, if cut down, they will pretty much die out.

Those who are believers in the influence of the moon, assert that it is during the full moon in August, and when the "sign is in the heart." This is a relic of ancient astrological faith—a faith which was founded in the doctrine that every planet had certain jurisdiction over specified things, and therefore, operations performed in accordance to an exercise of their power would be successful.

Dr. Elliot, of Connecticut, one of the oldest agricultural writers of New England, advanced the doctrine nearly, or quite, a hundred years ago, that if alders were cut in the wane of the moon when passing Leo, they would certainly bleed to death and never trouble you more. We have no doubt that there are certain times or stages of growth and circulation of the sap, in which, if cut, their growth will be checked—perhaps completely stopped—more than if cut at other times, and that this is owing more to the condition of the circulation in the system of the alder itself, than to any power that the moon has—whether in its increase or decrease, or whether passing Leo or any of the other constellations or signs of the zodiac.

If that periodical condition occurs in August, then August is the proper time to lay the axe at their roots to ensure their destruction. Wouldn't it be well to try it now?

#### HOLDING UP THE MILK.

We often hear complaints about cows holding up their milk, and various methods are recommended by which they can be made to give it down. These modes are generally empiric—that is, given without understanding anything of the cause, and therefore mere guess-works. A sure and unfailing remedy cannot be given until more is known of the way and manner in which the cow does it. She undoubtedly contracts some muscle or muscles which prevent the milk from flowing. The pressure of the hand of the milker is counteracted by the pressure or contraction of the muscles, which the cow operates at her own will and pleasure. If somebody skilled in comparative anatomy would, by dissection of the milk apparatus, or in any other way, ascertain the true cause, and the mode in which that cause acts, he could clearly and understandingly point out a sure way to obviate any holding up of milk when it took place.

Some have recommended feeding the cow, in order to engage her attention to her food and render her pleasant and good-natured at the time. This succeeds, probably, as often as any way. Others recommend to hang heavy weights across her back. This puts a load on another set of muscles, and the cow has to exert her strength in another direction. Some have tied up the forelegs of the cow, thereby throwing her upon her knees, and causing her, as in the other case, to exert her strength on another set of muscles, and thus relax those she uses when holding up her milk.

The last method we have seen recommended is one by our neighbor John Stanley, who has been troubled with one of these notional cows. This is, when the cow holds up her milk, to pull down on the bag, once or twice, strongly and suddenly, giving what some would call a good yank. He says he always succeeds by so doing. Why, we cannot tell. Perhaps it weakens the muscles used in holding up the milk, and they relax—or perhaps, the cow thinks that "discretion is the better part of valor," and she had better give down her milk than have her dugs torn out by the roots.

#### RAISING ONIONS.

Mr. Editor:—I noticed, in the last number of the Maine Farmer, an inquiry relating to the culture of the onion. I am glad to offer my experience for the attention of your readers. I find no difficulty in raising this valuable esculent. My method has been to sow the seed in suitable soil, and when the plants are from two to three inches high, I take common beef or pork brine, dilute it one-half with water, sprinkle it over the onion beds, and then wait the result. If I notice some of the plants to wither, I apply the brine again. Water sowed to the same amount will produce the same result—salt being essentially destructive to the maggot. I have now a flourishing bed of onions which I treated in this way.

BONNEY WINSLOW.

SCOURS IN SHEEP. The best remedy we know of for scouring in sheep, is milk thickened with wheat flour. A pint should be given twice a day till the unnatural discharge is stopped.

#### SPECIFIC MANURE FOR THE GRAPE.

We have been much interested with the perusal of a small work recently published by C. M. Saxton & Co., of New York, entitled "A New Process for the Vine. By Persoz." It is translated by J. O. C. Barclay, and anybody can have it for twenty-five cents, and he who cultivates grapes will find his money well laid out.

The author has devised a very good modification of the Thomey method of training and pruning the vine.

What more particularly interested us, however, was his system of applying fertilizers, or manuring his vines. He professes to have ascertained a specific dressing for causing the vine to grow as to its roots and branches, and another specific for causing it to put forth fruit abundantly. We do not know how far specifics can be relied upon, but we have no doubt the articles used by him are good dressings for grapes.

His theory is that the wood of the grape requires phosphates, and also carbon, in order to make up its materials; while the grape, or fruit, requires potash and silica.

In one of his experiments, he says that in "order to obtain all the possible development of the wood we set various vine stocks in trenches, at the bottom of which we had introduced about two pounds to the square yard of a compost formed

1—of coarsely pulverized bones (bone dust of commerce).  
2—of clippings of leather, or fragments of horn.

We covered the whole of this with good stable manure mingled with earth.

Three vine shoots, a, b, c, thus treated in the spring of 1847, furnished wood as follows:—  
a. Isabella—one cane 23 feet 10 inches long, 3-4 inch diameter.

b. White Chasselas—19 feet 6 inches long, and 1-2 inch diameter.

c. Rosy Chasselas—14 feet six inches long, and 2-3 inch diameter."

His object is first to develop the wood, or vine, and after develop the fruit bearing buds, &c.

He plants vines in trenches at convenient distances from each other, and, to develop wood, he applies "six pounds of bone dust, three pounds of clippings of skins or leather, shavings of horns, blood, and one pound of plaster." He gives 1-20th of this mixture to a trench twelve yards long, one yard wide, and eighteen inches deep.

After the wood has been well developed and trained, directions to do which he lays down, he proceeds to give food from which the vine can make grapes.

To this end, he says, "we spread above the trench, at a distance of from two to three inches from the buried vine (we having used layers for stocks), four pounds per square yard of a mixture of eight pounds of silicate of potassa,\* two pounds of the double phosphate (superphosphate of commerce), of lime and potassa. We then fill the trench level with surface, and the roots have, for a long time, the quantity of potassa which is necessary for them."

\* This silicate of potassa is made by melting quartz with potash. Good beach sand will answer for this purpose. The sand and potassa will unite and form an imperfect glass which will dissolve in water.

#### MILKING MACHINE.

A machine that would milk cows easily—quickly and completely, if simple in its operation and durable in its structure, and at the same time not injurious to the cows, would be a very popular machine among some.

Such a machine Mr. Kingman, of Dover, N. H., avers he has invented and is getting patented. He comes out with a very clear description of it in the New England Farmer and says it works "first rate." He takes a calf for his model and manufactures a machine, with four mouths, and sets him to sucking—submitting a pail for the calf's stomach—but we will let him tell his story as we find it in the New England Farmer:—

"In the first place, I take a large size pail, either of tin or wood, and fit on a cover so as to make it air tight; then I construct a small pump in some compact form, so as to exhaust the air from the pail. The pump made by my experiments (and which is described in the application for a patent) is a part of the cover to the pail, and being flat and thin, works rapidly and without friction, and does not wear so as to leak. It is only necessary to produce a slight vacuum, such as a calf might make with his mouth. I then connect four small rubber tubes, about eighteen inches long, with the top of the pail; and on the other end of each of these tubes, I fix a little cup of tin, glass or any other convenient material, about two inches in diameter and three inches deep. Over the top of each of these cups is drawn a cap of thin, flexible rubber, having a sack or mouth in the centre, of sufficient size to receive the end of the cow's teat, with a small hole in the bottom for the milk to pass through. The cap fits to the top of the cup, air-tight, by its own contraction, and also hangs around the end of the teat, but by its flexibility permits a free flow of milk into the cup and through the rubber tube into the pail.

Having got the machine in readiness, I slip each of the cow's teats into one of the soft, flexible sacks or mouths, which can be done in an instant with the end of the thumb—the rubber clings around the teats and holds the cups in place. I then commence pumping slowly and easily, and the milk flows in a large, steady stream from each teat, through the tube into the pail. The cow meantime, is quietly chewing her cud, hardly knowing that anything is going on; so perfectly is the teat sustained by the rubber sack, that the suction hardly affects it at all, and there is no pulling, or finching, or squeezing in any direction. All the while the milk is flowing at the rate of about two quarts per minute; at any rate, I have milked eight quarts of milk from my cow in four minutes, with a machine by no means perfect; because being the first and only one ever made, and got

up only to experiment with, it has suggested improvements which will be embodied hereafter; I am entirely satisfied that a child or woman can milk with this machine with perfect ease, faster than four milkers, either men or women, can milk by hand.

But the chief recommendation of the machine remains to be mentioned. The common method of milking by hand necessarily exposes the milk to more or less dust, dripping from the hands, and other kinds of filth, which often spoils its taste, and always gives one the idea that he is swallowing a disagreeable amount of unmentionable materials. Even the best and most careful milkers cannot avoid getting something into the pail that should not go there; this is proved by the universal custom of straining milk immediately after milking, in all cases, and by whomsoever it may have been milked. But straining will not take out the drippings from the hands of careless, filthy milkers; and the result is, a very general complaint among consumers, of the bad taste of milk, too often attributed to the adulteration or dishonesty of milkmen.

This machine, however, entirely obviates this unpleasant difficulty. The milk is drawn directly from the udder into a covered, air-tight pail, where no dust or drippings or filth can fall in, or be thrown by carelessness. The Irish girls cannot dip their hands into the pail to moisten the teats, as is their common practice, nor can the cow step into the pail, or kick it over, so as to spill the milk.

In short, I think the milking machine will be a great labor-saving improvement for the agricultural community, and a genuine comfort to both the cows and the consumers. Immediate efforts will be made, after obtaining a patent, to introduce the machine to the notice of the public, and to supply the market demand for them. It is not possible at present to say at what price they can be afforded, but probably they will not cost far from five dollars apiece."

E. PRATT, JR.

Freeport, July 21, 1856.

NOTE. The principal cause why the hobolink grows scarce among us, is the great slaughter that is made of them after they leave us and go south. It is well known that after they have laid a merry but short life among us, and reared up their young unmolested, except by some accident as referred to by our correspondent, they change their dress, become silent and apparently melancholy as if in sorrow for their departure, and then fly away to the south.

Here they congregate in immense flocks and feed upon the seeds of roads, &c., by the water side, and upon the rice fields, and become exceedingly fat—so fat that they often split open when they fall from being shot. This tempts all the boys and sportsmen in the region, and they are shot and devoured by thousands. They are called there "Red birds" and "Rice birds," and looked upon as a great luxury, and as population increases more, more "hobolinks" are devoured. That's the cause of their becoming scarce among us. It is strange that any are left to return to us in the spring. [Ed.]

#### THE HOBOLINK.

Mr. Editor:—If the subject is not too light to interest you and your readers, I should like to make some inquiries and a remark or two in regard to the disappearance of the hobolink from among us. Whether it is a fact of general observation through the state, or only confined to this locality, I know not. If there has been as great a diminution of the number of these merriest of feathered songsters, for the last twenty years in other localities as in this, it cannot have escaped the most common observation.

Indeed, I think there can scarcely be as many of these birds now in this town as I have in former days frequently seen collected from within hearing on a spreading tree, or on a cluster of bushes, for a morning concert.

This disposition to sing in concert, has undoubtedly been observed in these birds by all who at all familiar with them. Judging from appearances, this most cheerful and sociable of birds is ere long to become extinct among us, and if this is the case, it becomes a question of interest, what are the causes tending to this.

We know they are extremely sensitive to disturbance or molestation in their domestic affairs, and also very cautious and cunning in approaching and leaving their nests so as to elude observation; but as they almost always make their nests in the grass field, they are frequently mown over before the young are fledged, and I have noticed that in these cases, or in case of any disturbance, the old ones will forsake their nests. But as to the extent of the loss I am speaking of, or its causes, I write for information.

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#### WIRE FENCE.

Mr. Editor:—I have observed in the Farmer of 26th ult. an article directing the attention of its readers to wire fencing—and in the paper of 17th inst., to one from a disappointed purchaser of the same, denouncing "wire fence as a vanity and vexation of spirit." It is probable that his fence mentioned in that article was Butts' No. 5 pattern, described as "used for ornamental garden work, or a similar fabric." I would, however, suggest that the pattern and material may even have been heavier and different, but all this does not qualify the assertion that wire fence is so very vexatious; flimsy net work may be so, but wire fence, such as in this country, as well as through Great Britain, is used not only for railroads, but for cattle and deer proof fences, is an item well worthy the consideration of farmers; and although Friend Walker cautions them against "buying spider's web" for fence, I would venture to go farther, and call their attention to a material to present in use, and which, in both New Jersey and Pennsylvania, I have seen and carefully examined, and from the testimonials of the proprietors am prepared to state is second, in point of economy, to no other, be it viewed in any light, where I have seen it erected. To corroborate my statement I enclose the circular of a friend of mine, who has been contractor to railroad companies, and has constructed miles of it, and erected the same on noblemen's and landed proprietors' domains through the south of Ireland.

I refer to the strained wire fence of No. 5 or 6 wire, supported on posts well secured in the ground, beyond the influence of heaving of frost, and rendered capable, by a simple arrangement, of tightening and slackening to correspond with the variations of the weather; the posts placed, say 30 feet asunder, the wire is simply supported in their laying in a saw-cut, say an inch in depth; and being well tightened up by rollers placed in the straining posts, which occur at intervals of, say 200 or 250 feet, require no further support. The straining posts are firmly stayed with shores, some 10 feet in length, placed on the inner side of them, and parallel with the wire, so as to counteract the great strain unavoidable. These shores are firmly planted at their feet against short stakes, driven in the ground, the whole standing according to the purpose to which it is to be adapted, say for cows, oxen, &c., 4 1/2 feet in height. The wire rods may be placed at parallel intervals, according to required closeness and strength,—10 or 12 inches being usual space. No. 6 wire is most generally used for ordinary cattle fence, and may be calculated running 300 yards to the 100 lbs. In some instances the wire of this gauge runs even still lighter, say 10 feet to the pound in weight. The No. 5, however, is a still stronger material, and weighs in proportion rather heavier. The whole, when erected, and the wire covered with a body of red lead, well mixed with the needful oil, and dried, forms a fence of which the writer has seen hundreds of miles, and has sold tons of the needful wire, when engaged in that business; and if proof of its durability be required, copies of 28 circulars attesting its durability, for 13 and even 14 years subsequent to its erection. Such "facts are stubborn things," and tend to prove that, having borne various casualties and accidental tests, and so severe as are detailed in the

annexed circulars, authenticated, also, by men of highest rank and standing in society, good substantial wire fence, with common ordinary care, is well worthy of attention. Having examined, carefully, specimens erected in the neighborhood of Philadelphia, on the lands of Dr. Wistar, as well as a considerable range in the grounds of G. W. Taylor, of Burlington, I am fully convinced, from personal observation, as well as the statements of the owners, that, notwithstanding the severity of our frosts, there are many instances in this State where its erection would prove of considerable advantage, were it even from no other cause than the prevention of snow drifts, which from its light and unobstructive fabric it almost completely prevents. I should be glad did some extracts from enclosed testimonial seem worthy a place in the columns of the Farmer, convinced that to any reader, giving its contents an attentive perusal, it would prove that properly erected and strained fence is not either "a vanity or vexation of spirit."

Hoping to be excused for intruding my views at such length, I am, very respectfully,

I. WILLIAM JACOB.

P. S. I should be very glad to learn whether there are, at present, any fences of this plain wire in this vicinity, and to learn the result of the experiment regarding the snow-drift prevention, and as to its stability during frosts.

South China, Me., 7th mo. 28th, 1856.

NOTE. Accompanying the above communication was a circular containing an engraving of the fence. We do not know of any like this in our vicinity but should like to have it tried.

Ed.

For the Maine Farmer.

MEASURING HAY.—A MORE CORRECT RULE.

Mr. Editor:—I find, in a late number of your paper, an article taken from the New Jersey Farmer, giving directions for measuring hay in the mow, to find the number of tons, in which it is assumed that it requires 7000 cubic feet of hay in a mow 12 or 15 feet in depth, or 800 feet, if the mow be not more than 5 or 6 feet deep. I had noticed the same extract in some other papers in this State, and when I read it, I said to myself "The Maine Farmer will not publish that without correcting it."

I have owned a farm the last fifteen years, and have had from 12 to 20 tons of hay pressed yearly, and have been in the habit of estimating the number of tons by measure before pressing, and a mow measuring 400 square feet on the bottom, and 12 or 15 feet deep, seldom gave me much less than a ton to a foot in depth.

My hay has generally been a mixture of timothy and clover, of medium fineness, and I think, in a mow of the above description, it has never required so much as 500 cubic feet, in any year, for a ton. People in this vicinity estimate loose hay from 425 to 500 cubic feet per ton, according to circumstances. From this it may be inferred that I was not a little astonished on reading the extract alluded to.

E. PRATT, JR.

Freeport, July 24, 1856.

NOTE. If our correspondent "reads the papers," he should learn not to be astonished at anything. But, to be serious, perhaps both rules may be right. In the extract mentioned, no particular kind of hay is alluded to, and it is a fact that some kinds of hay are heavier than others, which may account for the difference. We are always glad to be set right, when we have made any mistake, and accordingly give Mr. P. a chance to give his side of the question.

Ja. Ed.

For the Maine Farmer.

PLASTER OF PARIS OR GYPSUM.

Mr. Editor:—As an absorbent of ammonia gas, and as a cheap disinfectant agent, and so easy of application, there are few superior to it. In this dog days season of the year, when the exhalations from drains, sinks, and the wastes from dirty back yards, as well as from the vaults of privies, abound, it cannot be used too freely. It will well repay for itself in that latter case, not only from its contribution to health, but from the greatly increased value of the contents of the vaults as a manure.

Lime or ashes should not be used in such cases, as it will dissipate the ammonia. For livery, or other stables, a free use of plaster will be very beneficial, both to the health of the animals and to the value of the manure. Who is there that, in going into a livery stable, has not felt his eyes smart from the effects of the ammonia gas floating in its atmosphere, and felt a disagreeable sensation about the throat? It affects the horse or other animal in the same way, to the great injury of their health. So much will the plaster increase the value of the manure, that the purchaser of it could well afford, in addition to the price paid, to furnish gratuitously the plaster used.

Those persons in our city, or in any other town or village, who have regard for their own health and the comfort of their neighbors, are informed that they can obtain plaster in any quantity, of the best quality, fresh ground, at the plaster mill of Mr. George Williams, upon the Kennebec Dam. Try it, and you will be pleased with the result.

AGRICOLA.

August 5, 1856.

For the Maine Farmer.

PICKLES.

Mr. Editor:—Will you oblige me by giving me the best method of curing cucumbers for winter?

Wm. HASKELL.

Hudson, July 25, 1856.

NOTE. Put them down in salt. Or, try the following mode, which we cut out from an exchange:—  
"An excellent way to make pickles that will keep a year or more, is to drop them into boiling water, but not to boil them; let them stay in ten minutes, wipe them dry, and drop into cold spiced vinegar, and they will not need to be put into salt and water, and are always ready for use."

HINTS TO FARMERS. Toads are the best protection of cabbage against lice.

Plants, when drooping, are revived by a few grains of camphor.

Pears are generally improved by grafting on the mountain ash.

#### From the Ironopolis Free Press.

#### CORN POETRY.

The West can boast of glorious streams  
And verdant grandest loaves—  
Of lake and forest old and green,  
But most of Indian Corn;

Large fields of Indian Corn.  
'Tis sweet when summer's sun goes down,  
When winds have ceased to blow,  
To list its rustling, crackling sound,  
And think we hear it grow;

It seems so glad to grow.  
I love to pull it from the stalk  
When it is in the milk,  
And hark it out its sheath, and talk  
Of its soft shining silk—  
Its glossy floss, its silk.

And when aside at noon we dash  
Our work for hell or horn,  
Give me a dish of succotash,  
Or ears of Indian Corn—  
Hot ears of Indian Corn.

I'll take it with a true delight,  
And eat it with a good appetite  
For nothing tempts the appetite  
Like ears of Indian Corn—  
Sweet ears of Indian Corn.

Then when its sheaves stand thick about,  
And fruits the field adorn,  
How gushes out the merry shout  
From buxoms of the corn—  
The yellow, golden corn.

Where freedom floats on every breeze,  
And fields of Indian Corn  
Are spread out on the land like seas,  
I joy that I was born—  
Blessed land of Indian Corn.

FARM WORK FOR AUGUST.

In the fore part of this month, farmers will be busy in securing their grain and hay. And as soon as these important crops are stored, there will be a favorable time to make improvements on the farm.

August is the month when the most important improvements of a permanent character are made. Low lands which cannot be approached in the spring, may now be subdued in various modes. Draining is the first act, and no man should attempt to move in the business, unless he can thoroughly drain the bogs which he proposes to bring to bear English grass.

August is the very best month to clear up bog meadows and fit them to bear something of value. A part of August is a time of leisure. Part and burn therefore, such bogs as now produce nothing, and have them ready for sowing grass seed early in September.

This is the best season of the year to sow herbage and red top—as it will yield a good harvest in the next year after sowing.

Farmers and orchardists should look to their trees in midsummer, when borers are about the premises. Our early patrons well know what we think of the borer, and of the best mode of destruction. Wash the body of the tree with potash water, or with lye from wood ashes, and you will kill or keep off all borers from your apple and quince trees. Now is the time to attend to this business, before the young borers have buried themselves under the bark.

[Mass. Ploughman.]

#### EXPERIMENTS IN GRAPE CULTURE.

Mr. M. H. Simpson exhibited in this city to-day some magnificent specimens of fruit from his graperies in Saxtonville, where he had conducted with so much success, his interesting experiments in regard to crops of grapes. The varieties of fruit now fully ripe on his vines are the White Frontignan, Black Hamburg and Black Prince grapes. The grapes are of large size, fine color and high flavor. The two varieties first named above, are from vines which bore fruit eight months since, and the present crop is the third that has been gathered in two years. The grapes of the Black Prince variety were from vines upon which Mr. Simpson has tried the following experiment:—He made them bear two crops in 1855. By starting the vines in August, 1854, he had ripe fruit in the January succeeding. In February he started the vines again, and he had a crop in July. He then gave the vines rest till February last, when he started them, and now in July, he has a crop of splendid fruit, making the third produced within two years. The above course was taken to bring the vines into the line of bearing each eight months. We congratulate Mr. Simpson upon his triumphant success in this important field of culture.

[Boston Transcript.]

#### How to Harvest Corn.

Let the corn remain on the stalk until it is dry and fit for the crib.

Enter the field with horse and wagon, straddle every fifth row, with a man on each side and a boy in the rear. Break off the ears as rapidly as possible, throwing them into the wagon; this saves carrying or handling over, not being particular about taking off all the husks; secure your corn in any convenient place until winter; a pen of rails will answer. The husks that remain will keep the corn from spoiling in the crib. When you wish to market your corn put it on a floor, thresh with horses, the husks will not be in the way, rake off, run through a mill, and your corn will be bright and clean, and in first-rate condition. Two men and a boy can pick and crib two hundred and fifty bushels of ears in a day.

My opinion is, if farmers will adhere strictly to these rules, they may save half their labor, and have better crops. This is quite an item.

[Cor. Mich. Farmer.]

HIGH CRANBERRY. This shrub, growing in the swamps around us, can be as readily cultivated in our gardens as our currant, and is worth more, certainly, than the gooseberry. It bears rich clusters of scarlet berries, and as an ornamental tree or shrub, is far preferable to hundreds of those of foreign growth, that are obtained with great expense, and raised with a great deal of trouble. Beside, the fruit makes a rich, delicious sauce, preserve, tart or pie, and is invaluable in the pastry department. It can be raised where the common cranberry would fail, and as it is easily transplanted, or can be raised from cutting, we are surprised that it is not more cultivated. We hope to see it generally introduced into our gardens.

[Granite Farmer.]

#### DOMESTIC RECEIPTS.

SELECTED FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

SELF-SEALING FRUIT CANS. Take a common fruit jar, with a tin cover, make like a shoe-black box. The jar and the cover will probably cost a dime, and hold a quart. Any of the cements that are used for sealing cans or jars will do for this. Heat your fruit, either in the jar, or in some other vessel, and pour it in the jars (previously warming them). Now pour enough cement in the cover to give the bottom and sides a thin coat. When the cement becomes slightly stiff, apply the cover over the jar, the jar having been well filled, and turn the jar upside down; and here is the invention. As fruit jars have a lip, you now have a little trough to fill with cement, and the work is done. Let your jars get cold standing on the covers, and put them away in the same position.

It is the steam escaping in the common way of sealing or soldering cans, that leaves so many of them imperfect. My plan entirely obviates this difficulty, as the steam or vapor is always on top of the fruit. This arrangement, you perceive, is really a chemist's pneumatic trough, and there is no danger when your fruit has cooled down and created a vacuum, that the external atmospheric pressure will force the corks in.

[Cor. Ohio Cultivator.]

RIPE TOMATO PICKLES. Select handsome sized tomatoes, wash them and prick them with a fork; lay them in dry salt twenty-four hours; then soak in equal quantities of vinegar and water for 24 hours; then take them out and lay them down in a crock, with sliced onions, first a layer of tomatoes, and then onions, with cinnamon, cloves and brown sugar, and then cover the whole with good cider vinegar.

CURRENT DUMPLINGS. Pick and wash a pound of dumplings, dry them, and lay them on a plate before the fire. Chop a pound of suet very small and put it into eight spoonfuls of flour, with two spoonfuls of salt, and three of ginger; now add the currents, and mix all well together; then beat up four eggs with a pint of milk, add this by degrees to the other ingredients, and make it into a light paste; roll it up into balls as large as a turkey's egg, with a little flour; flatten them a little and put them in to boiling water; move them gently that they may not stick together. Half an hour will boil them.

[Germanian Telegraph.]

AN INFALLIBLE REMEDY. At this season, when dysentery becomes very prevalent, we can recommend the following means of curing the same, which are within the reach of every person at almost every hour:—Take one tablespoonful of common salt and mix it with two tablespoonfuls of vinegar, and pour upon it a half pint of water, either hot or cold—only let it be taken cold. A wine-glassful of this mixture in the above proportions, taken every half hour, will be found quite efficacious in curing dysentery. If the stomach be nauseated, a wine glass full every hour will suffice. For a child, the quantity should be a teaspoonful of salt and one of vinegar, in a teaspoonful of water.

For all diseases man is heir to, nature's remedies are simple and sure, and there is no evil in the world without its antidote. We could mention numerous instances in which the above recipe was found effective in the cure of dysentery.

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**MAINE FARMER**

**AGUSTA:**  
**THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 14, 1856.**

**LARGE BEET.** Mr. Jona. Estes, of Chiswick, sent us some beets, last week, one of which measured 11 inches in circumference, and 13 inches long. It was a handsome specimen considering the early period of the season.

ly killed. He was taken on the noon train which came along immediately after the accident, and brought to the depot. The lightning, after leaving the body, followed the rails along to the south end of the depot, when it left the track with a report like a pistol. Several persons who were in the depot at the time were somewhat affected by the electricity, but fortunately no one else was hurt.

Thompson, of New York, and the poem by Wm. C. Williamson, of Boston. The exercises of the graduating class take place on Wednesday.—Music is to be furnished by the Germania Band, of Boston, who will give a concert, on Wednesday evening, at the Baptist Church. Excursion trains on the different railroads leave Waterville at the close of the concert.

their march by Missourians. Two hundred of the latter had left Westport and Kickapoo with the intention of interrupting them. Gen. Lane did not accompany the emigrants. One hundred men from Topeka have gone up the Iowa road to meet and assist the emigrants.

blishment was discovered, and the whole  
g of counterfeiters, as is supposed, arrested,  
sisting of five men, all Italians. A large  
ntity of unfinished bogus gold dollars was  
ed, as well as the metals and apparatus for  
cting them. The parties arrested were de-  
ered over to the United States Marshal, Major  
rant, and by him committed to jail to await  
examination.

by fire to night. Two of these were by Wallace & Lithgou, and were full of s, patterns, castings, etc. Loss \$30,000; ed \$10,000. One was owned by Brady & s, and was filled with bagging, ball rope, key, bacon, etc. Insured \$35,000. The was owned by Pitkin & Bro., and was with agricultural implements. Loss \$20,

inches an hour. [Hartford Times.

LINE TO NEW YORK. We learn that  
as C. Vanderbilt, the celebrated steam-  
proprietor, has purchased the New York  
Railroad, and will soon start a line of  
s in connection with the road to form an  
on route from this city to New York.  
w movement will create some excitement  
the travelling community, as the fares  
are low figure.

SPAIN. Our meagre and unreliable roads being in the whose announcement the royal troops of Saragoassa, who demanded five days was granted. The information however, states th

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# THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILIAR NEWSPAPER.

## THE LATEST NEWS FROM EUROPE.

**ARRIVAL OF THE ASIA.**  
The steamship Asia, with three days later news, arrived at New York on Thursday last. Her news, except from Spain, is not of special importance. We make the following summary:—

ENGLAND. Parliament had a discussion on Spanish affairs. Lord Rosebery, in answer to a question, stated that there was nothing at present which could lead in any way to interference of the French government in the affairs of Spain; that the Emperor of France, as a just man, would feel that foreign interference would be unjust, he was, however, without any reliable particulars.

ITALY. From Italy, we have a statement by telegraph of a revolt in the Duchy of Mantua. The revolt, however, without any reliable particulars.

THE AUSTRIAN OFFICIALS state that the movement was insignificant, and that it was promptly suppressed.

INDIA AND CHINA. The Anglo-Saxon brings Bombay dates of the 25th, and Shanghai to the 21. The crops of tea and silk are reported very abundant.

THE ANTI-SLAVERY COAL TRADE. The Miner's Journal of the 21st inst., states that the shipment of coal from the Schuylkill region of 97,477 tons during the previous week from the corresponding week last year, and that the production from all the regions is 171,629 tons less than last year at this time. The increase of production last year at this time over the year before, was 347,848 tons, which added to this year's deficiency, makes a difference in the trade this year of 519,277 tons, with only four months of the shipping season remaining. The average yearly increase for the last five years, has been 530,236 tons. The deductions of the Miners' Journal are, however, not correct, as the production with nearly all the markets bare last spring, business generally flourishing, the great consumers, the iron manufacturers, using more than usual, and coal costing less in the principal markets, it can be no good reason why they should not have shipped more than they did.

THE WEATHER IN ENGLAND had been showery, and favorable to agricultural purposes. The Cornard steamer Zebra, lying between Liverpool and Havre, went ashore on Lizard Point. Crew and passengers saved; also a portion of the cargo. The vessel is full of water.

FRANCE. The intentions of the French government regarding Spain are subject of much speculation in Paris. It is said if O'Donnell is successful, France can have no occasion to interfere. On the other hand, should the Liberals succeed, and the Queen be obliged to abdicate in favor of the Princess of Austria, with Espinosa regent, neither would France interfere. But if the Duchess Montpensier should become next heir to the throne, or should a republic be proclaimed, then France would invade Spain.

PRINCE LUCIEN BONAPARTE has gone on a mission to Madrid.

SPAIN. Advice from Spain to the 18th gives official account of the insurrection. The National Guard were entirely disarmed, and domiciliary visits were being made to secure all arms in the hands of the citizens. Numerous arrests were also made. The killing of the royal troops are estimated at forty to fifty, and 130 wounded. The loss of the insurgents is not known. The fighting at Barcelona lasted two days. A portion of the troops at Saragossa remain faithful to the Queen. Government was despatching all available troops to this last stronghold of the insurrectionists, with orders not to fight in the streets, but to bombard the city from the adjoining forts. O'Donnell is expected to receive news in a few days of the submission of Saragossa, and with it of the whole country to his government.

LATER ADVICES announce Madrid tranquil. Espinosa was still there, but O'Donnell had offered him passports to any part of Spain, or abroad. Private accounts say the royal troops showed great fidelity in the city, and the insurgent forces were being disbanded.

THE DUKES OF ALBA, brother-in-law to the Empress of France, has been appointed Mayor of Madrid. Escoriaza had sought refuge in the British Embassy.

PARIS, 24th. The royal troops are masters of every point at Barcelona, but still remain under arms. Preparations are making to execute all taken with arms.

GERONA, where Gen. Ruiz commands the garrison, has risen.

THE LONDON NEWS says that 1200 were killed in the streets of Barcelona. The people fought behind barricades with determined courage for three days, when their leaders deserted them.

THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT had issued a programme of policy, which is theoretically very liberal.

A NUMBER of arrests had been made in Paris of persons who had formed groups in the streets, talking of Spanish affairs.

NOTHING important from other parts of Europe.

LATER-ARRIVAL OF THE ANGO-SAXON.  
The propeller, Anglo-Saxon arrived at Quebec on Sunday, bringing four days later news. We have the following concerning the state of the markets:—

Wheat and flour have slightly declined, the decline being mostly on inferior grades.

THE LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET was firm but quiet, at the prices current on the sailing of the Asia.

THE LONDON MARKET exhibited no new feature, and consols were firm at about previous rates.

THE FOLLOWING summary embraces everything of interest in the news by this arrival:—

GRAT BATTAIN. The British Parliament was prorogued on the 25th ult., until the 7th of October next.

PREVIOUS to adjournment, Mr. Barkley asked Lord Palmerston when the government would re-appoint consuls at New York, Philadelphia, and Cincinnati.

Lord Palmerston replied that the government had not, as yet, taken any steps in reference to the matter.

THE PROCEEDINGS of Parliament were without interest in other respects.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH was delivered to both houses of Parliament on the 25th ult. Her Majesty thanks her lords and gentlemen in Parliament for their usual assiduity in public duties, especially for their support during the past year.

Her Majesty says that the prosperity of the nation was not threatened by the war, but expresses hope that the general prosperity of her subjects will be augmented by the peace. The royal speech then proceeds to say that her Majesty is engaged in negotiations on the subject of questions in connection with the war, but expresses hope that the general prosperity of her subjects will be augmented by the peace.

THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE of the British House of Commons have made their report in relation to the Danish Sound Dues, but they do not suggest any new provisions, except that of their investigation. They, however, urge an immediate and final settlement of the matter, if practicable by negotiation.

WE HAVE NOTHING new from the late report of war, excepting a reported serious disagreement between the boundaries between Russia and Turkey.

SPAIN. Our advice from Spain continues meagre and unreliable, the telegraph and public news announcements say that on the 24th ult., the royal troops commenced their march on the city of Saragossa, whereupon the insurgents within the city demanded five days cessation of hostilities, which was granted.

THE INFORMATION conveyed to the London press, however, states that although the city of Mad-

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